

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 78, line 1 as follows:

Various dilutions of the reaction mixture were made in 0.1 M sodium phosphate buffer (pH 7), ranging from no dilution to a fifty times dilution. Enzyme solutions were prepared by addition of buffer to lyophilized cell lysate preparations. These cell lysates contained nitrilase which had been overexpressed in a *Pseudomonas* host. Two enzyme preparations, BD 1911 (~~SEQ ID NO:2, encoded by SEQ ID NO:1~~) and BD 1921 (~~SEQ ID NO:4, encoded by SEQ ID NO:3~~), with final protein concentrations of 10.72 and 15.56 mg/ml of solution, were used. The enzyme solutions (20 µl) were added individually to each of the phenylglycine-containing dilutions (final volume 300 µl). The samples were incubated at room temperature. After 18 hours, the reactions were sampled and run on TLC (4:1:5 1-butanol: acetic acid: water). Phenylglycine was detected in the 10, 25 and 50 times dilutions, with a faint peak appearing in the 5 times dilution, for both enzymes. After 5 days, the reactions were sampled again and analyzed by HPLC. Nitrilase BD 1921 showed approximately 10% conversion to product in the 5 times dilution of substrate nitrilase BD 1911 converted < 5% of the substrate. Higher conversions were obtained for the lower dilutions of Strecker reaction mixture (up to 35% conversion in the 50 times dilution).